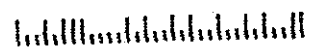
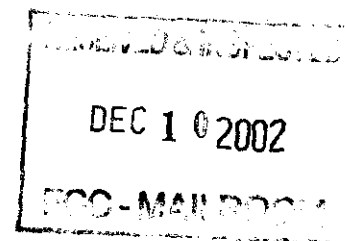
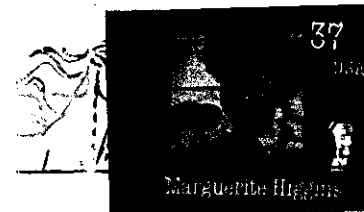


Ted Fatuross
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COMMISSIONER COPPS

2002 DEC 11 P 4: 37

Federal Communications Commission
Re: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554



02-297

December 1, 2002

Dear Commissioner Copps,

This letter is about the media ownership rules which your commission, the FCC, wants to change with a public comment period that ends on the third of this month. Although not many Americans care about the repercussions of these proposed changes, I do. Commissioner Copps, I am writing this letter to you in hope that you will take my concerns seriously.

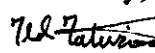
I believe that changing the media ownership rules would be a major mistake. Any changes that would be made would have to serve the consumer first. Therefore, the point of these changes, I assume, would be to help the consumer. I firmly believe that the changes proposed would *not* help the consumer at all, but instead help a handful of gargantuan media companies help get more money.

Allow me to demonstrate this. Many of the companies that would benefit from these changes are involved in more than one form of media. They own radio stations, TV channels, newspapers, magazines, movie studios, and record companies. These huge companies use their various media tentacles to promote their own products. For instance, these companies will find a band, give them a record contract, give the band good reviews in their magazines and newspapers, and play the band's song on their radio stations. Therefore, the company uses all of its media tentacles to feed the consumer their products. Although this process provides handsome profits for the enormous media company, it leaves the consumer with little diversity. Furthermore, the consumer can not get honest reviews of bands, movies, ect. because the media institutions that rate these things are tainted with the greed for corporate.

Therefore, the proposed media changes would not help the consumer but help the companies that own all the types o media. Let me remind you that this problem was started by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, signed by Bill Clinton. The purpose of this act was, once again, to help the consumer. However, cable rates have risen **30%** since the act was signed, obviously not helping the consumer. There were beneficiaries from the act, however. The people who profited from the act were not the consumers but major media companies. After the act was passed, we saw a flurry of mega media mergers. Six years later, we have reached the point where there is only a handful of media companies that completely dominate the country, and limit competition. We all know that competition drives ingenuity, and is therefore essential to a capitalistic economy. The further changes that are proposed would advance these problems.

I beg you on the behalf of many ignorant Americans to not make the problem worse by caring through the proposed changes. The consumer has already seen his/her rates go up along with the fewer voices he/she has heard in the media. Therefore, please think of the consumer first, not the profits of media companies.

Ted Fatuos
1029 8th St.
Manhattan Beach, CA
90266

Sincerely,

Ted Fatuos

CC: Kelly King, VP & General Manager Cingular Wireless, Western Region

Commissioner Loretta Lynch – President PUC

Commissioner Henry Duque - PUC

Commissioner Michael Beevey - PUC

Commissioner Carl Wood - PUC

Commissioner Jeffrey Brown – PUC

Richard Fish - Cellular & Wireless Carriers - PUC

Commissioner Michael K Powell – Chairman - FCC

Commissioner Kathleen Q Abernathy – FCC

Commissioner Michael J Copps – FCC

Commissioner Kevin J Martin – FCC

Karen Kaplan – Telecommunications Editor – LA Times

Laurie Ochoa – Editor In Chief – LA Weekly

Changing media
rules increases
the choices, but
limits the voices.

Don't change the media
ownership rules. It's bad
for the consumer, who is
more important than the
profits of big media
conglomerates.

Thanks.